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Verschuere et al. (43) Pub. Date: **May 16, 2002**(54) **APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATIC
PLATE-COATING AND CLEANING**(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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CHICAGO, IL 60601-6780 (US)(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **B41C 1/10**(52) U.S. Cl. **101/463.1; 101/467; 101/478**(57) **ABSTRACT**

An off-press plate-making apparatus is provided which comprises means for removing the lithographic image from the substrate of a used printing master and means for recoating the recycled substrate with a new image-recording layer. The off-press cleaning and recoating of the substrate provides a short press down-time. The recoated substrate forms an imaging material which can be exposed either on-press in a digital press comprising an integrated exposure apparatus or off-press in an exposure apparatus, which can be integrated in the plate-making apparatus or mechanically coupled thereto.

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